

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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THE POINT OF FRICTION.

THE GERMAN PROCLAMATION.

Germany's explanatory memorandum upon the "War Zone" proclamation centers around the following statement:

The German government has in vain called the attention of neutral powers to the fact that it must face the question of whether it can longer persevere in its hitherto strict observance of the rules of the London Declaration, if Great Britain were to continue its course and the neutral powers were to continue to acquiesce in these violations of neutrality to the detriment of Germany. For her violations of international law Great Britain pleads the vital interests which the British empire has at stake and the neutral powers seem to satisfy themselves with a theoretical protest. Therefore in fact they accept the vital interests of belligerents as sufficient excuse for every method of warfare.

Germany must now appeal to these same vital interests to its regret. It therefore sees itself forced to military measures aimed at England in retaliation against the English procedure.

That is to say, Germany is forced to accept the preservation of her vital interests as "sufficient excuse for every method of warfare."

In issuing this extraordinary proclamation, German admits taking her attitude with regret. Her reason is that Great Britain has violated international law. By plain implication Germany admits also that she will no longer strictly observe the rules of the London Declaration.

Germany's explanation is strikingly like that which preceded the invasion of Belgium. The German chancellor and later other statesmen, among them Count von Bernstorff, said that France was preparing to strike at Germany through Belgium and it was necessary for Belgium to strike first. Later Berlin declared that a secret treaty had been negotiated between Great Britain and Belgium, by which Belgium became in fact an ally of Great Britain instead of a neutral state.

"Because other powers have violated international law and comity, we can no longer be held by international law and comity when our vital interests are at stake," sums up this attitude.

As a matter of fact, ordinary conception of national obligation and national duty is hopelessly confused by the European conflict. There is no agreement as to what constitutes international law, nor to what lengths the belligerent is justified in going to protect "vital interests." Each side accuses the other of being the first to break the faith.

A notable development of the conflict has been the various assaults made on the United States because of our attitude. British critics not infrequently say that in failing to lodge an emphatic protest against the invasion of Belgium Uncle Sam was false to international honor; and a British objection was raised to American purchase of German ships on the ground that this would "afford aid and comfort to the enemy" and thus be an unneutral act.

The Germans meanwhile criticize Uncle Sam—just as this memorandum published today criticizes—for "acquiescing in these violations of neutrality to the detriment of Germany," instancing British embargo on cargoes for Germany, the seizure of German reservists and the "blockade of neutral ports."

The criticism of belligerents must, however, be expected by a neutral nation so powerful and whose material help is so desirable as that of the United States. The belligerents are quite naturally unable to maintain an impartial viewpoint.

All this dispute over what is and what is not a violation of international law, all these flings at the United States, simply go to show what an amazing folly it would be for America to become actively involved in the war. There would never be agreement, either abroad or at home, as to the justice of fighting one side or the other. Americans may very well overlook or calmly accept the criticism of belligerents because it is not and never can be impartial or well-balanced criticism.

The smoothness and rapidity with which anti-Hawaiian legislation slides through Congress makes one wonder if it wouldn't be better to ask Kuhio to oppose what Hawaii wants.

However, if those duck-ponds succumb to Superintendent Forbes's reclamation plans, another feature will be taken from Honolulu's aboriginal wild life.

The more we look at that national deficit the more logical becomes the financial objection to free sugar.

What is needed on the battle-front seems to be a live major-league umpire to call decisions.

Americans who have lived in Japan, or who have visited the Orient to study social and political conditions, almost invariably disagree emphatically with the startling sentiments often heard in Congress and elsewhere in the United States concerning the possibility of war with Japan.

The Star-Bulletin on Saturday published part of a very interesting article by Eliza R. Scidmore dealing with Japan's part in the war—an appreciation of the Japanese position from one well qualified to speak. Indirectly that article is fundamentally opposed to the idea that Japan will risk a breach of relations with the United States—provided Japan is treated fairly on the immigration question.

Directly in accord with Miss Scidmore's conclusions, and quite as interesting for its own information, is the view expressed a few weeks ago by Martin Egan, former editor of the Manila Times and a newspaper man of much experience in the Orient. Testifying before the senate Philippine committee he said:

"To me it has always seemed that the Philippines would be incidental to any difficulty we might have with Japan, and not the cause of any difficulty with Japan; and I have always felt that there was never any real necessity for trouble with the Japanese if we are prepared to treat them fairly. I am unable to see any necessity for an armed conflict for the so-called mastery of the Pacific. I am unable to see anything out there that we have that they want, or that they have that we want. We have one or two points of danger, and one of them is in this very question of immigration, and I think we fall not of good intent, but through not understanding. The Japanese do not want their people to come to California, and they do not want them to be citizens of the United States, but at the same time they do not want us to say that they shall not come to California or that they shall not become citizens of the United States. It comes back to a matter of national pride. It seems to me that most of the things that they have done in their very extraordinary career in recent years have been done with the idea of asserting their equality and insisting on fair treatment. I am convinced that if we understand them and treat them fairly we will not have any trouble with them."

Dr. Sidney L. Gulick said much the same thing when he was in Honolulu, and in addition Dr. Gulick has proposed a definite immigration policy to be applied to all aliens alike. There is very general agreement among those who may speak with authority that not the limitation of immigrants but the discrimination as between aliens of one nation and aliens of another is the most likely point of friction in Pacific relations.

AUSTRIA'S NEW MINISTER.

Less has been heard of Hungarian dissatisfaction and the Dual Monarchy's internal troubles since Count Leopold von Berchtold, the Austrian minister of foreign affairs, was retired and Baron Stephan Burian von Rajecz replaced him.

Von Rajecz is a true Hungarian, with plenty of support among his own people and with the respect of the Austrian people. Von Berchtold could not satisfy Hungary as to the conduct of the war, though the Hungarians stood firmly by Vienna when the drastic note to Serbia precipitated the open breach. Furthermore, von Berchtold's influence in Roumania has been on the wane, if widespread reports are to be credited, and above all Austria-Hungary has been anxious to hold the Roumanians to the offensive and defensive alliance in force when the war broke out.

Hungarian leaders headed the war party last summer and with a Hungarian premier, Vienna need not fear but that Budapest will give all the assistance possible.

Von Berchtold had asked several times for permission to retire, but this permission was not granted, according to London reports.

That he was allowed to quit his important post while the war was on is pretty good proof of serious dissatisfaction with his conduct of office. Baron Burian was once the Austro-Hungarian minister of finance and is skilled in diplomacy.

The German governor of Belgium says the Belgians are "politically undisciplined children." The discipline presumably is being thoroughly supplied.

The foot-and-mouth disease is not confined to cattle. Some folks never open their mouth but they put their foot in it.

Pennsylvania has tied Cornell for the intercollegiate chess championship. Penn must be "coming back," athletically speaking.

Evidently the opium industry doesn't need a tariff protection.

Letters or TIMELY TOPICS

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

THE HOSPITAL STAFF CHANGES.

Honolulu, Feb. 6, 1915.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
Sir: The report, as published in the Star-Bulletin on Friday, the 14th inst., of the action of the board of trustees of the Queen's hospital, might lead the public to think that the previous hospital staff had been removed. The contrary is the case.

The rules of the hospital require the trustees to make staff appointments from the honorary board of consulting physicians and surgeons to the hospital. These appointments are made every six months and, as the term of the former staff had expired, new appointments were necessary, for the period ending July 31, 1915.

GEO. W. SMITH,
Secretary, Queen's Hospital.

FROM THE TEACHER'S STAND-POINT.

Honolulu, Feb. 6, 1915.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
Sir: I am much interested in the

recent article by Mr. Kinney in which he speaks of the new rules in the department of public instruction to cut out fads and to teach the old-fashioned three "r's."

I think it the right step in the right direction. But there is one of the above mentioned "r's" to which I would like to call attention; namely, "rhythmic," which, to me, seems to go a-begging.

The new allotment of time gives this study in the different grades as follows:

First and second grades—20 minutes a day.

Third grade—30 minutes a day.

Fourth and fifth grades—35 minutes a day.

Sixth grade—41 minutes a day.

Seventh and eighth grades—45 minutes a day.

Now when a teacher with a class of 45 pupils tries to teach arithmetic in this space of time she must be exceedingly clever, or her class unusually bright, to be able to give her pupils the required knowledge in that length of time.

The teachers as I have been told are not required to use a stop-watch but this division of time amounts almost to the same thing.

Thanking you for your space, I am,
Yours respectfully,
AN OLD-TIME TEACHER.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM P. McDUGALL of Kohala, Hawaii, is a visitor in the city.

SENATOR WILLIAM T. ROBINSON of Walluku, Maui, arrived on the Mauna Kea Saturday.

H. AKONA, a merchant of Waimoa, Hawaii, arrived Saturday from the Big Island in the Mauna Kea.

MRS. H. G. LOWRY will leave in the steamer Matsushima Wednesday on a month's trip to San Francisco.

MOSES DOIRON, a well-known Home Rule politician of Hilo, arrived in the Mauna Kea from Hawaii ports Saturday.

WADE WARREN THAYER, territorial secretary, will return from San Francisco in the transport Thomas next Saturday.

MALFORD H. DRUMMOND, territorial bank examiner, returned in the steamer Mauna Kea yesterday morning from Maui.

MISS SARAH TODD of Hilo, Hawaii, is visiting relatives and friends in the city, arriving in the steamer Mauna Kea from the Big Island.

MAYOR JOHN C. LANE has removed to Pua street in the Fifth district, observing a campaign promise he made to the citizens of the fifth.

H. H. TOMPKINS, Denver banker, likes Hawaii so well that he has bought one of the Pualeilani lots, formerly owned by Prince Kuhio, at Waikiki, and will build a bungalow there.

MISS M. HOLSTEIN, daughter of H. L. Holstein of Kohala, has returned in Honolulu in the Mauna Kea to resume her studies in the Kamehameha School for Girls. Miss Holstein was taken ill some months ago.

MISS ELLA CRANDALL, a teacher in the Maui Central high school at Hamakua, is bound for Victoria in the steamship Niagara to become the bride of a Canadian soldier who will shortly depart for the front.

F. A. POTTER will leave for San Francisco in the Matsushima Wednesday with a collection of fish for the aquarium in the Hawaiian building at the exposition. Fifty different varieties of the finny tribe will be taken to the coast.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE C. BECKLEY and Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Campbell, who will leave for the mainland on the Matsushima Wednesday, were entertained at a luau at the Parker residence on the Peninsula yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Shingle. A yachting party was given in the afternoon.

SUPERINTENDENT C. R. FORBES returned this morning from Hilo. He accompanied Senator-elect W. G. Harding of Ohio and party, traveling

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—J. W. CALDWELL: My explanation of the name "jitney bus" is this: Down South the negroes call a 5-cent piece a "jitney" and hence the bus with a 5-cent fare is the jitney bus. I'll have to be shown on other explanations.

—ROY S. ANDERSON (Standard Oil Company's Peking representative): During the revolution of 1911 the standing army in China amounted to approximately 1,000,000 men in the field. This army was mainly supported by the provinces. The army of China was never until the last year considered a national unit, but in 1914 the central government inaugurated a plan to pay off this army and to make the military force a unit in the national government. President Yuan Shih-kai has succeeded in large measure in this undertaking, but any one can readily see that it has been a heavy drain on the national resources. As evidence of the confidence of the people in the government, I cite the fact that five months ago a domestic loan of \$16,000,000 was oversubscribed two months after it was issued.

DENIES CHINA SEEKING BIG FOREIGN LOAN

C. F. Wang, special agent of the bureau of finance in the Chinese republic, passed through Honolulu last week on the liner Korea, returning to Peking.

The report that Wang was in the states as the agent of President Yuan Shih-kai of China to negotiate a loan with American corporation interests, and which caused the Chinese revolutionaries in this city to send a protest to President Wilson, was declared a myth by him.

"I never came to the United States to negotiate a loan," said Wang, "nor did I negotiate a loan or transact any other business in connection with a loan."

"The revolutionaries of San Francisco have made too much of my presence in America. I came as a special agent of the Bureau of Finance of the Chinese Government to inspect methods and systems of banking and the currency system of the country. Now I am going home, and no loan has been made to China during my stay here."

Wang came to the United States three months ago. He is former director of the Bureau of Audits and the Bureau of Taxation in the new republic. Most of his time in this country was spent observing the administration of the Treasury Department at Washington, but he has also inspected with them to the volcano, to Pahoehoe and up the Hamakua coast in the Hilo railway. The party was met and entertained at Hilo by the Board of Trade of that city.

FOR SALE

PUNAHOU DISTRICT—Two lots, frontage on three streets, area 20,000 sq. ft. \$3500.00
PUUNUI—Large lot 107,500 sq. ft. A good place to build a home or raise chickens. 2000.00
NUUANU—Corner lot on Bates street 1800.00
KALIHI—Lots in Meyers Tract 450.00
Cottage on Wilder avenue, near Oahu College, corner lot. 2000.00
Cottage on Young street, between Victoria and Piliok streets 2500.00

For further particulars and list of other property call on

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German Landwehrman tenderly feeding French child in the invaded country in front of the River Aisne. The soldier here appears in anything but a hostile light.

several of the big banks of the East. o'clock next Friday evening for the While Wang was in Washington the revolutionary committee telegraphed to the President that he was trying to negotiate a big loan to the Chinese Government and made a strongly-worded protest against such a deal.

140 PEOPLE EXPECTED ON SPECIAL EXCURSION TRIP TO GARDEN ISLE

Reservations for berths aboard the S.S. Kinau for the Kaula excursion, scheduled to leave Honolulu at 10

Garden Island, are now being made at the Promotion Committee rooms. The deck and berth plan is being used and money is now being taken in for the tickets which are \$9.50 each. The Outdoor Committee which has charge of the excursion is enthusiastic over the prospects and expects to have a full load of excursionists, or about 140 people. A canvass will now be made amongst all those who have placed their names with the committee for the trip in order to dispose of tickets as rapidly as possible and have all arrangements complete by Thursday.

FOR SALE

Near Fort Shafter

A six room house on a large lot. There are modern improvements.

Price - \$2,000

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HOUSES FOR RENT FURNISHED

2336 Oahu Ave., Manoa 4 bedrooms.....\$.....
1252 Kinau St., Puunui 3 bedrooms..... 40.00
Cor. Armstrong and Vancouver
Aves., Manoa 3 bedrooms..... 60.00
2568 Rooke St., Puunui 4 bedrooms..... 75.00
Jones St., Manoa Valley 3 bedrooms..... 60.00
250 Lewers Road, Waikiki 3 bedrooms..... 50.00

UNFURNISHED

1328 Kinau St. 3 bedrooms.....\$35.00
1877 Kalakaua Ave. 3 bedrooms..... 20.00
1126 King St. 3 bedrooms..... 50.00
2015 Oahu Ave., Manoa Valley 2 bedrooms..... 30.00
Wilder Ave. and Alexander st. 3 bedrooms..... 35.00
2130 Kamehameha Ave., Manoa 3 bedrooms..... 40.00
Cor. Mokuauia and Colburn Sts., Kalihi 3 bedrooms..... 15.00

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